

Indonesian language

Indonesian (*bahasa Indonesia*, [ba ˈha.sa in.doˈne.sja]) is the official language of Indonesia. It is a standardised variety of Malay,^[4] an Austronesian language that has been used as a lingua franca in the multilingual Indonesian archipelago for centuries. Indonesia is the fourth most populous nation in the world. Of its large population, the majority speak Indonesian, making it one of the most widely spoken languages in the world.^[5]

Most Indonesians, aside from speaking the national language, are fluent in at least one of the more than 700 indigenous local languages; examples include Javanese, Sundanese and Balinese, which are commonly used at home and within the local community.^{[6][7]} However, most formal education and nearly all national mass media, governance, administration, judiciary and other forms of communication, are conducted in Indonesian.^[8]

The term "Indonesian" is primarily associated with the national standard dialect (*bahasa baku*).^[9] However, in a more loose sense, it also encompasses the various local varieties spoken throughout the Indonesian archipelago.^{[4][10]} Standard Indonesian is confined mostly to formal situations, existing in a diglossic relationship with vernacular Malay varieties, which are commonly used for daily communication.^[9]

The Indonesian name for the language (*bahasa Indonesia*) is also occasionally found in English and other languages.

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Indonesian	
<i>bahasa Indonesia</i>	
Pronunciation	[ba ˈha.sa in.doˈne.sja]
Native to	Indonesia
Native speakers	43 million (2010 census) ^[1] <div>L2 speakers: 156 million (2010 census)^[1]</div>
Language family	<div>Austronesian <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Malayo-Polynesian<ul style="list-style-type: none">Malayo-Sumbawan (?)<ul style="list-style-type: none">Malayic<ul style="list-style-type: none">Malayan<ul style="list-style-type: none">Malay<ul style="list-style-type: none">Malacca ("Riau") Malay<ul style="list-style-type: none">Indonesian</div>
Writing system	Latin (Indonesian alphabet) <p>Indonesian Braille</p>
Signed forms	BISINDO, SIBI
Official status	
Official language in	 Indonesia <div> <div> ASEAN</div> <div></div> </div>
Recognised minority language in	 East Timor ^[2] <div> United Nations <p>(used in UN peacekeeping missions)</p> </div>
Regulated by	Language and Book Development Agency
Language codes	
ISO 639-1	id (https://www.10c.gov/standards/iso-639-2/php/langcodes_name.php?iso_639_1=id)
ISO 639-2	ind (https://www.10c.gov/standards/iso-639-2/php/langcodes_name.php?code_ID=207)
ISO 639-3	ind

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Measure words

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References

External links

English-Indonesian translation services
English-Indonesian dictionaries

Glottolog	indo1316 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/indo1316) ^[3]
Linguasphere	31-MFA-ac
	
<div><input type="checkbox"/> Countries of the world where Indonesian is a majority native language</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Countries where Indonesian is a minority language</div>	

History

Early kingdoms era

Standard Indonesian is a standard variety of "Riau Malay",^{[11][12]} which despite its common name is not the Malay dialect native to the Riau Islands, but rather the Classical Malay of the Malaccan royal courts.^[13] Originally spoken in Northeast Sumatra,^[14] Malay has been used as a lingua franca in the Indonesian archipelago for half a millennium. It might be attributed to its ancestor, the Old Malay language (which can be traced back to the 7th century). The Kedukan Bukit Inscription is the oldest surviving specimen of Old Malay, the language used by Srivijayan empire. Since the 7th century, the Old Malay language has been used in Nusantara (Indonesian archipelago), evidenced by Srivijaya inscriptions and by other inscriptions from coastal areas of the archipelago, such as those discovered in Java.

Old Malay as *lingua franca*

Trade contacts carried on by various ethnic peoples at the time were the main vehicle for spreading the Old Malay language, which was the main communications medium among the traders. Ultimately, the Old Malay language became a lingua franca and was spoken widely by most people in the archipelago.^{[15][16]}

Indonesian (in its normative form) has essentially the same material basis as the standard Malaysian register of Malay and is therefore considered to be a variety of the pluricentric Malay language. However, it does differ from Malaysian Malay in several respects, with differences in pronunciation and vocabulary. These differences are due mainly to the Dutch and Javanese influences on Indonesian. Indonesian was also influenced by the *Melayu pasar* (literally "market Malay"), which was the lingua franca of the archipelago in colonial times, and thus indirectly by other spoken languages of the islands.

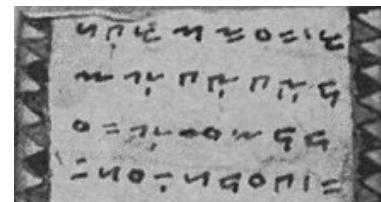
Malaysian Malay claims to be closer to the classical Malay of earlier centuries, even though modern Malaysian has been heavily influenced, in lexicon as well as in syntax, by English. The question of whether High Malay (Court Malay) or Low Malay (Bazaar Malay) was the true parent of the Indonesian language is still in debate. High Malay was the official language used in the court of the Johor Sultanate and continued by the Dutch-administered territory of Riau-Lingga, while Low Malay was commonly used in marketplaces and ports of the archipelago. Some linguists have argued that it was the more common Low Malay that formed the base of the Indonesian language.^[17]

Dutch colonial era

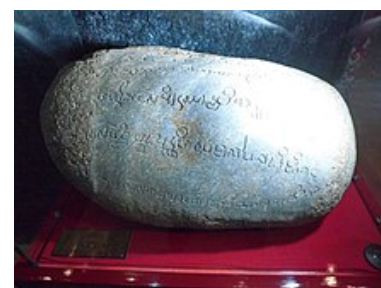
When the Dutch East India Company (VOC) first arrived in the archipelago, the Malay language was a significant trading and political language due to the influence of Malaccan Sultanate and later the Portuguese. However, the language had never been dominant among the population of the Indonesian archipelago as it was limited to mercantile activity. The VOC adopted the Malay language as the administrative language of their trading outpost in the east. Following the bankruptcy of the VOC, the Batavian Republic took control of the colony in 1799, and it was only then that education in and promotion of Dutch began in the colony. Even then, Dutch administrators were remarkably reluctant to promote the use of Dutch compared to other colonial regimes. Dutch thus remained the language of a small elite: in 1940, only 2% of the total population could speak Dutch. Nevertheless, it did have a significant influence on the development of Malay in the colony: during the colonial era, the language that would be standardised as Indonesian absorbed a large amount of Dutch vocabulary in the form of loanwords.

Birth of the Indonesian language

The nationalist movement that ultimately brought Indonesian to its national language status rejected Dutch from the outset. However, the rapid disappearance of Dutch was a very unusual case compared with other colonised countries, where the colonial language generally has continued to function as the language of politics, bureaucracy, education, technology, and other fields of importance for a significant time after independence.^[18] Soenjono Dardjowidjojo even goes so far as to say that "Indonesian is perhaps the only language that has achieved the status of a national language in its true sense" since it truly dominates in all spheres of Indonesian society. The ease with which Indonesia eliminated the language of its former colonial power can perhaps be explained as much by Dutch policy as by Indonesian nationalism. In marked contrast to the French, Spanish and Portuguese, who pursued an assimilation colonial policy, or even the British, the Dutch did not attempt to spread their language among the indigenous population. In fact, they consciously prevented the language from being spread by refusing to provide education, especially in Dutch, to the native Indonesians so they would not come to see themselves as equals.^[18] Moreover, the Dutch wished to prevent the Indonesians from elevating their perceived social status by taking on elements of Dutch culture. Thus, until the 1930s, they maintained a minimalist regime and allowed Malay to spread quickly throughout the archipelago.



Rencong alphabet, native writing systems found in central and South Sumatra and Malay Peninsula. The text reads (Voorhoeve's spelling): "haku manangis ma / njaru ka'u ka'u di / saru tijada da / tang [hitu hadik sa]", which is translated by Voorhoeve as: "I am weeping, calling you; though called, you do not come" (in modern Malay "Aku menangis, menyerukan engkau, kaudiseru, tiada datang [itu adik satu]").



Kedukan Bukit Inscription, written in Pallava script, is the oldest surviving specimen of the Old Malay language in South Sumatra, Indonesia.



Volksraad session held in July 1938 in Jakarta, where Indonesian was formally used for the first time by Jahja Datoek Kajo.

Adoption as national language

In 1945, when Indonesia declared its independence, Indonesian was formally declared the national language,^[23] despite being the native language of only about 5% of the population. In contrast, Javanese and Sundanese were the mother tongues of 42–48% and 15% respectively.^[24] The combination of nationalistic, political, and practical concerns ultimately led to the successful adoption of Indonesian as a national language. In 1945, Javanese was easily the most prominent language in Indonesia. It was the native language of nearly half the population, the primary language of politics and economics, and the language of courtly, religious, and literary tradition.^[18] What it lacked, however, was the ability to unite the diverse Indonesian population as a whole. With thousands of islands and hundreds of different languages, the newly independent country of Indonesia had to find a national language that could realistically be spoken by the majority of the population and that would not divide the nation by favouring one ethnic group, namely the Javanese, over the others. In 1945, Indonesian was already in widespread use;^[24] in fact, it had been for roughly a thousand years. Over that long period, Malay, which would later become standardised as Indonesian, was the primary language of commerce and travel. It was also the language used for the propagation of Islam in the 13th to 17th centuries, as well as the language of instruction used by Portuguese and Dutch missionaries attempting to convert the indigenous people to Christianity.^[18] The combination of these factors meant that the language was already known to some degree by most of the population, and it could be more easily adopted as the national language than perhaps any other. Moreover, it was the language of the sultanate of Brunei and of future Malaysia, on which some Indonesian nationalists had claims.

Over the first 53 years of Indonesian independence, the country's first two presidents, Sukarno and Suharto constantly nurtured the sense of national unity embodied by Indonesian, and the language remains an essential component of Indonesian identity. Through a language planning program that made Indonesian the language of politics, education, and nation-building in general, Indonesian became one of the few success stories of an indigenous language effectively overtaking that of a country's colonisers to become the *de jure* and *de facto* official language.^[20] Today, Indonesian continues to function as the language of national identity as the Congress of Indonesian Youth envisioned, and also serves as the language of education, literacy, modernisation, and social mobility.^[20] Despite still being a second language to most Indonesians, it is unquestionably the language of the Indonesian nation as a whole, as it has had unrivalled success as a factor in nation-building and the strengthening of Indonesian identity.

Modern and colloquial Indonesian

While Indonesian is spoken as a mother tongue by only a small proportion of the population (i.e. mainly those who reside within the vicinity of Jakarta and other large predominantly Indonesian-speaking cities such as Medan and Balikpapan), over 200 million people regularly make use of the national language, with varying degrees of proficiency. In a nation that boasts more than 700 native languages and a vast array of ethnic groups, it plays an important unifying and cross-archipelagic role for the country. Use of the national language is abundant in the media, government bodies, schools, universities, workplaces, among members of the upper-class or nobility and also in formal situations, despite the 2010 census showing only 19.94% of over-five-year-olds speak mainly Indonesian at home.^[25]



The Pledge was the result of second Youth Pledge held in Batavia in October 1928. On the last pledge, there was an affirmation of Indonesian language as a *unifying language* throughout the archipelago.

Standard Indonesian is used in books and newspapers and on television/radio news broadcasts. The standard dialect, however, is rarely used in daily conversations, being confined mostly to formal settings. While this is a phenomenon common to most languages in the world (for example, spoken English does not always correspond to its written standards), the proximity of spoken Indonesian (in terms of grammar and vocabulary) to its normative form is noticeably low. This is mostly due to Indonesians combining aspects of their own local languages (e.g., Javanese, Sundanese, and Balinese) with Indonesian. This results in various vernacular varieties of Indonesian, the very types that a foreigner is most likely to hear upon arriving in any Indonesian city or town.^[26] This phenomenon is amplified by the use of Indonesian slang, particularly in the cities. Unlike the relatively uniform standard variety, Vernacular Indonesian exhibits a high degree of geographical variation, though Colloquial Jakartan Indonesian functions as the *de facto* norm of informal language and is a popular source of influence throughout the archipelago.^[9]

The most common and widely used colloquial Indonesian is heavily influenced by the Betawi language, a Malay-based creole of Jakarta, amplified by its popularity in Indonesian popular culture in mass media and Jakarta's status as the national capital. In informal spoken Indonesian, various words are replaced with those of a less formal nature. For example, *tidak* (no) is often replaced with the Betawi form *nggak* or the even simpler *gak*, while *seperti* (like, similar to) is often replaced with *kayak* [kaja?]. *Sangat* or *amat* (very), the term to express intensity, is often being replaced with the Javanese-influenced *banget*.

As for pronunciation, the diphthongs *ai* and *au* on the end of base words are typically pronounced as /e/ and /o/. In informal writing, the spelling of words is modified to reflect the actual pronunciation in a way that can be produced with less effort. For example, *capai* becomes *cape* or *capek*, *pakai* becomes *pake*, *kalau* becomes *kalo*.

In verbs, the prefix *me-* is often dropped, although an initial nasal consonant is often retained, as when *mengangkat* becomes *ngangkat* (the basic word is *angkat*). The suffixes *-kan* and *-i* are often replaced by *-in*. For example, *mencarikan* becomes *nyariin*, *menuruti* becomes *nurutin*. The latter grammatical aspect is one often closely related to the Indonesian spoken in Jakarta and its surrounding areas.

Classification and related languages

Indonesian is one of the many varieties of Malay. Malay historical linguists agree on the likelihood of the Malay homeland being in western Borneo stretching to the Bruneian coast.^[27] A form known as Proto-Malay language was spoken in Borneo at least by 1000 BCE and was, it has been argued, the ancestral language of all subsequent Malayan languages. Its ancestor, Proto-Malayo-Polynesian, a descendant of the Proto-Austronesian language, began to break up by at least 2000 BCE, possibly as a result of the southward expansion of Austronesian peoples into Maritime Southeast Asia from the island of Taiwan.^[28] Indonesian, which originated from Malay, is a member of the Austronesian family of languages, which includes languages from Southeast Asia, the Pacific Ocean and Madagascar, with a smaller number in continental Asia. It has a degree of mutual intelligibility with the Malaysian standard of Malay, which is officially known there as Bahasa Malaysia, despite the numerous lexical differences.^[29] However, vernacular varieties spoken in Indonesia and Malaysia share limited intelligibility, which is evidenced by the fact that Malaysians have difficulties understanding Indonesian sinetron (soap opera) aired on Malaysia TV stations, and vice versa.^[30]

Malagasy, a geographic outlier spoken in Madagascar in the Indian Ocean; the Philippines national language, Filipino; and the native language of New Zealanders, Māori language are also members of this language family. Although each language of the family is mutually unintelligible, their similarities are rather striking. Many roots have come virtually unchanged from their common ancestor, Proto-Austronesian language. There are many cognates found in the languages' words for kinship, health, body parts and common animals. Numbers, especially, show remarkable similarities.



Road-signs in an airport terminal



Toll gate in Indonesia



Indonesian language used on a bus advertisement

Numbers in Austronesian languages

Language	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
PAN , c. 4000 BCE	*isa	*DuSa	*telu	*Sepat	*lima	*enem	*pitu	*walu	*Siwa	*puluq
Amis	cecaɣ	tusa	tulu	sepat	lima	enem	pitu	falu	siwa	pulu'
Rukai	itha	drusa	tulru	supate	lrima	eneme	pitu	valru	bangate	pulruku
Tsou	coni	yuso	tuyu	səptə	eimo	nomə	pitu	voyu	sio	maskə
Tagalog	isá	dalawá	tatló	ápat	limá	ánim	pitó	waló	siyám	sampu
Ilocano	maysá	dua	talló	uppát	limá	inném	pitó	waló	siam	sangapúlo
Cebuano	usá	duhá	tuló	upat	limá	unom	pitó	waló	siyám	napulu
Chamorro	maisa/hâcha	hugua	tulu	fatfat	lima	gunum	fiti	guâlu	sigua	mânot/fulu
Malagasy	iray/isa	roa	telo	efatra	dimy	enina	fito	valo	sivy	folo
Chăm	sa	dua	tlau	pak	limy	nam	tajuh	dalipan	thalipan	pluh
Rhade	sa	dua	tlâo	pă	êma	năm	kjuh	sapăn	duapăn	pluh
Batak	sada	dua	tolu	opat	lima	onom	pitu	walu	sia	sapuluh
Malay/Indonesian	satu	dua	tiga	empat	lima	enam	tujuh	lapan/delapan	sembilan	sepuluh
Minangkabau	ciek	duo	tigo	ampek	limo	anam	tujuah	salapan	sambilan	sapuluah
Rejang ^[31]	do	duai	tlau	pat	lêmo	num	tujuak	dêlapên	sêmbilan	sêpuluak
Javanese	siji	loro	telu	papat	lima	nem	pitu	wolu	sanga	sepuluh
Tetun	ida	rua	tolu	hat	lima	nen	hitu	ualu	sia	sanulu
Fijian	dua	rua	tolu	vā	lima	ono	vitu	walu	ciwa	tini
Kiribati	teuana	uoua	teniua	aua	nimaui	onoua	itua	waniua	ruaiua	tebuina
Tongan	taha	ua	tolu	fā	nima	ono	fitu	valu	hiva	-fulu
Sāmoan	tasi	lua	tolu	fā	lima	ono	fitu	valu	iva	sefulu
Māori	tahi	rua	toru	whā	rima	ono	whitu	waru	iwa	tekau (archaic: ngahuru)
Tahitian	hō'ē	piti	toru	maha	pae	ōno	hitu	va'u	iva	'ahuru
Marquesan	tahi	'ua	to'u	hā	'ima	ono	hitu	va'u	iva	'ahu'u
Leeward Islands (Society Islands) language	tahi	rua	toru	fā	rima	ono	fitu	varu	iva	'ahuru
Hawaiian	kahi	lua	kolu	hā	lima	ono	hiku	walu	iwa	-'umi

However, Indonesian, as it is known today, was heavily influenced by several languages due to historical ties with other nations. Dutch made the highest contribution to the language, especially in vocabulary due to the Dutch's colonisation for over three centuries, from the 16th century until the mid-20th century.^{[32][33]} Asian languages also influenced the language, with Chinese influencing Indonesian during the 15th and 16th centuries due to the spice trade; Sanskrit, Tamil, Prakrit and Hindi contributing during the flourishing of Hindu and Buddhist kingdoms from the 2nd to the 14th century; followed by Arabic after the spread of Islam in the archipelago in the 13th century.^[34] Loanwords from Portuguese were mainly connected with articles that the early European traders and explorers brought to Southeast Asia. Indonesian also receives many English words as a result of globalisation and modernisation, especially since the 1990s, as far as the Internet's emergence and development until the present day.^[35] Some Indonesian words have also been borrowed into English, among them the common words *orangutan*, *gong*, *bamboo*, *rattan*, *sarong*, and the less common words such as *paddy*, *sago* and *kapok*. The phrase "to run amok" comes from the Indonesian verb *amuk* (to run out of control, to rage).^{[36][37]}

Indonesian is neither a pidgin nor a creole since its characteristics do not meet any of the criteria for either. It is believed that the Indonesian language was one of the means to achieve independence, but it is opened to receive vocabulary from other foreign languages aside from Malay that it has made contact with since the colonialism era, such as Dutch, English and Arabic among others, as the loan words keep increasing each year.^[38]

Geographical distribution

In 2010, Indonesian had 42.8 million native speakers and 154.9 million second-language speakers,^[1] who speak it alongside their local mother tongue, giving a total number of speakers in Indonesia of 197.7 million.^[1] It is common as a first language in urban areas, and as a second language by those residing in more rural parts of Indonesia.

The VOA and BBC use Indonesian as their standard for broadcasting in Malay.^{[39][40]} In Australia, Indonesian is one of three Asian target languages, together with Japanese and Mandarin, taught in some schools as part of the Languages Other Than English programme.^[41] Indonesian has been taught in Australian schools and universities since the 1950s.^[42]

In East Timor, which was occupied by Indonesia between 1975 and 1999, Indonesian is recognised by the constitution as one of the two working languages (the other being English), alongside the official languages of Tetum and Portuguese.^[2] It is understood by the Malay people of Australia's Cocos Keeling Islands in the Indian Ocean, also in some parts of the Sulu area of the southern Philippines and traces of it are to be found among people of Malay descent in Sri Lanka, South Africa, Suriname, and other places.^[8]

Official status

Indonesian is the official language of Indonesia, and its usage is encouraged throughout the Indonesian archipelago. It is regulated in Chapter XV, 1945 Constitution of Indonesia about the flag, official language, coat of arms, and national anthem of Indonesia.^[43] Also, in Chapter III, Section 25 to 45, Government regulation No. 24/2009 mentions explicitly the status of the Indonesian language.^[44]

The national language shall be Indonesian.

— Article 36, Chapter XV, Constitution of Indonesia^[45]

Indonesian functions as a symbol of national identity and pride, and is a *lingua franca* among the diverse ethnic groups in Indonesia. The language serves as the national and official language, the language of education, communication, transaction and trade documentation, the development of national culture, science, technology, and mass media. It also serves as a vehicle of communication among the provinces and different regional cultures in the country.^[44]

According to Indonesian law, the Indonesian language was proclaimed as the unifying language during the Youth Pledge on 28 October 1928 and developed further to accommodate the dynamics of Indonesian civilisation.^[44] As mentioned previously, the language was based on Riau Malay,^{[11][46]} though linguists note that this is not the local dialect of Riau, but the Malaccan dialect that was used in the Riau court.^[13] Since its conception in 1928 and its official recognition in the 1945 Constitution, the Indonesian language has been loaded with a nationalist political agenda to unify Indonesia (former Dutch East Indies). This status has made it relatively open to accommodate influences from other Indonesian ethnic languages, most notably Javanese as the majority ethnic group, and Dutch as the previous coloniser. Compared to the indigenous dialects of Malay spoken in Sumatra and Malay peninsula or the normative Malaysian standard, the Indonesian language differs profoundly by a large amount of Javanese loanwords incorporated into its already-rich vocabulary. As a result, Indonesian has more extensive sources of loanwords, compared to Malaysian Malay. It is sometimes said that the Indonesian language is an artificial language, meaning that it was designed by academics rather than evolving naturally as most common languages have,^[47] in order to accommodate the political purpose of establishing an official and unifying language of Indonesia. By borrowing heavily from numerous other languages, it expresses a natural linguistic evolution; in fact, it is as natural as the next language, as demonstrated in its exceptional capacity for absorbing foreign vocabulary.^[47]

The disparate evolution of Indonesian and Malaysian has led to a rift between the two standardised registers. This has been based more upon political nuance and the history of their standardisation than cultural reasons, and as a result, there are asymmetrical views regarding each other's variety among Malaysians and Indonesians. Malaysians tend to assert that Malaysian and Indonesian are merely different normative varieties of the same language, while Indonesians tend to treat them as separate, albeit closely related, languages. Consequently, Indonesians feel little need to harmonise their language with Malaysia and Brunei, whereas Malaysians are keener to coordinate the evolution of the language with Indonesians,^[48] although the 1972 Indonesian alphabet reform was seen mainly as a concession of Dutch-based Indonesian to the English-based spelling of Malaysian.



Indonesian is also the language of Indonesian mass media, such as magazines. Printed and broadcast mass media are encouraged to use proper Indonesian, although more relaxed popular slang often prevails.



Warning sign in Indonesia

Phonology

Vowels

It is usually said that there are six vowels in Indonesian.^[49] These six vowels are shown in the table below. However, other analyses set up a system with other vowels, particularly the open-mid vowels /ɛ/ and /ɔ/.^[50]

Table of vowel phonemes of Indonesian

	Front	Central	Back
<u>Close</u>	<u>i</u>		<u>u</u>
<u>Close-mid</u>	<u>e</u>	<u>ə</u>	<u>o</u>
<u>Open-mid</u>	(ɛ)		(ɔ)
<u>Open</u>		<u>a</u>	

In standard Indonesian orthography, the Latin alphabet is used, and five vowels are distinguished: *a*, *i*, *u*, *e*, *o*. In materials for learners, the mid-front vowel /e/ is sometimes represented with a diacritic as *é* to distinguish it from the mid-central vowel /ə/.

Diphthongs

Indonesian has four diphthong phonemes only in open syllables.^[51] They are:

- /aɪ/: *kedai* ('shop'), *pandai* ('clever')
- /au/: *kerbau* ('buffalo'), *limau* ('lemon')
- /oi/ (or /ʊi/ in Indonesian): *dodoi*, *amboi*
- /eɪ/: *survei* ('survey')

Some analyses assume that these diphthongs are actually a monophthong followed by an approximant, so ⟨ai⟩ represents /aj/, ⟨au⟩ represents /aw/, and ⟨oi⟩ represents /oj/. On this basis, there are no phonological diphthongs in Indonesian.^[52]

Diphthongs are differentiated from two vowels in two syllables, such as:

- /a.i/: e.g. *lain* ('other') [la.in], *air* ('water') [a.ir]
- /a.u/: *bau* ('smell') [ba.u], *laut* ('sea') [la.ut]

Consonants

Indonesian consonant phonemes

		<u>Labial</u>	<u>Alveolar</u>	<u>Palatal</u>	<u>Velar</u>	<u>Glottal</u>
<u>Nasal</u>		<u>m</u>	<u>n</u>	<u>ɲ</u>	<u>ŋ</u>	
<u>Plosive/Affricate</u>	<u>voiceless</u>	<u>p</u>	<u>t</u>	<u>tʃ</u>	<u>k</u>	(ʔ)
	<u>voiced</u>	<u>b</u>	<u>d</u>	<u>dʒ</u>	<u>g</u>	
<u>Fricative</u>	<u>voiceless</u>	(f)	<u>s</u>	(ʃ)	(x)	<u>h</u>
	<u>voiced</u>	(v)	(z)			
<u>Approximant</u>		<u>w</u>	<u>l</u>	<u>j</u>		
<u>Trill</u>			<u>r</u>			

The consonants of Indonesian are shown below.^{[49][53]} Non-native consonants that only occur in borrowed words, principally from Arabic and English, are shown in parentheses. Some analyses list 19 "primary consonants" for Indonesian as the 18 symbols that are not in parentheses in the table as well as the glottal stop [ʔ]. The secondary consonants /f/, /v/, /z/, /ʃ/ and /x/ only appear in loanwords. Some speakers pronounce /v/ in loanwords as [v], otherwise it is [f]. Likewise /x/ may be replaced with [h] or [k] by some speakers. /ʃ/ is sometimes replaced with /s/ and was traditionally used as a substitute for /ʒ/ in older

borrowings from Sanskrit and /f/ is rarely replaced though /p/ was substituted for /f/ in older borrowings such as kopi "coffee" from Dutch koffie. /z/ may occasionally be replaced with /s/ or /d͡ʒ/. [z] can also be an allophone of /s/ before voiced consonants.^{[54][55]}

Orthographic note:

The sounds are represented orthographically by their symbols as above, except:

- /ɲ/ is written ⟨ny⟩ before a vowel, ⟨n⟩ before ⟨c⟩ and ⟨j⟩.
- /ŋ/ is written ⟨ng⟩.
- The glottal stop [ʔ] is written as a final ⟨k⟩, an apostrophe ⟨'⟩ (the use ⟨k⟩ from its being an allophone of /k/ or /g/ in the syllable coda), or it can be unwritten.
- /tʃ/ is written ⟨c⟩.
- /d͡ʒ/ is written ⟨j⟩.
- /ʃ/ is written ⟨sy⟩.
- /x/ is written ⟨kh⟩.
- /j/ is written ⟨y⟩.

Stress

Indonesian has light stress that falls on either the final or penultimate syllable, depending on regional variations as well as the presence of the schwa (/ə/) in a word. It is generally the penultimate syllable that is stressed, unless its vowel is a schwa /ə/. If the penult has a schwa, then stress moves to the ante-penultimate syllable if there is one, even if that syllable has a schwa as well; if the word is disyllabic, the stress is final. In disyllabic stress with a closed penultimate syllable, such as *tinggal* ('stay') and *rantai* ('chain'), stress falls on the penult.

However, there is some disagreement among linguists over whether stress is phonemic (unpredictable), with some analyses suggesting that there is no underlying stress in Indonesian.^{[53][56][57]}

Rhythm

The classification of languages based on rhythm can be problematic.^[58] Nevertheless, acoustic measurements suggest that Indonesian has more syllable-based rhythm than British English,^[59] even though doubts remain about whether the syllable is the appropriate unit for the study of Malay prosody.^[56]

Grammar

Word order in Indonesian is generally subject-verb-object (SVO), similar to that of most modern European languages, such as English. However considerable flexibility in word ordering exists, in contrast with languages such as Japanese or Korean, for instance, which always end clauses with verbs. Indonesian, while allowing for relatively flexible word orderings, does not mark for grammatical case, nor does it make use of grammatical gender.

Affixes

In Indonesian, affixes take on an important role because slightly different affixes may have very different meanings. There are four types of affixes: prefixes (*awalan*), suffixes (*akhiran*), circumfixes (*apitan*) and infixes (*sisipan*). Affixes are categorised into noun, verb, and adjective affixes. Root words are either nouns or verbs, which can take on affixes to generate new words, for example, *masak* (to cook) may become *memasak* (cooks), *memasakkan* (cooks for), *dimasak* (is cooked), *pemasak* (a cook), *masakan* (a meal, cookery), “*termasak*” (accidentally cooked). Many initial consonants alternate in the presence of prefixes: *sapu* (to sweep) becomes *menyapu* (sweeps/sweeping); *panggil* (to call) becomes *memanggil* (calls/calling), *tapis* (to sieve) becomes *menapis* (sieves).

Other examples of the use of affixes to change the meaning of a word can be seen with the word *ajar* (teach):

- *ajar* = teach
- *ajaran* = teachings

- **belajar** = to learn
- **mengajar** = to teach (intransitive)
- **mengajarkan** = to teach (transitive)
- **diajar** = to be taught (intransitive)
- **diajarkan** = to be taught (transitive)
- **mempelajari** = to study
- **dipelajari** = to be studied
- **pelajar** = student
- **pengajar** = teacher
- **pelajaran** = subject, education
- **pengajaran** = lesson
- **pembelajaran** = learning
- **terajar** = taught (accidentally)
- **terpelajar** = well-educated, literally "been taught"
- **berpelajaran** = is educated, literally "has education"

Noun affixes

Noun affixes are affixes that form nouns upon addition to root words. The following are examples of noun affixes:

Type of noun affixes	Affix	Example of root word	Example of derived word
Prefix	pə(r)- ~ pəng-	<i>duduk</i> (sit)	penduduk (population)
	kə-	<i>hendak</i> (want)	kehendak (desire)
Infix	⟨əl⟩	<i>tunjuk</i> (point)	telunjuk (index finger, command)
	⟨əm⟩	<i>kelut</i> (dishevelled)	kemelut (chaos, crisis)
	⟨ər⟩	<i>gigi</i> (teeth)	gerigi (toothed blade)
Suffix	-an	<i>bangun</i> (wake up, raise)	bangunan (building)
Circumfix	kə-...-an	<i>raja</i> (king)	kerajaan (kingdom)
	pə(r)-...-an pəng-...-an	<i>kerja</i> (work)	pekerjaan (occupation)

The prefix *per-* drops its *r* before *r*, *l* and frequently before *p*, *t*, *k*. In some words it is *peng-*; though formally distinct, these are treated as variants of the same prefix in Indonesian grammar books.

Verb affixes

Similarly, verb affixes in Indonesian are attached to root words to form verbs. In Indonesian, there are:

Type of verb affixes	Affix	Example of root word	Example of derived word
Prefix	bər-	<i>ajar</i> (teach)	<i>belajar</i> (to study) ^[60]
	məŋg-	<i>tolong</i> (help)	<i>menolong</i> (to help)
	di-	<i>ambil</i> (take)	<i>diambil</i> (be taken)
	məmpər-	<i>panjang</i> (length)	<i>memperpanjang</i> (to lengthen)
	dipər-	<i>dalam</i> (deep)	<i>diperdalam</i> (be deepened)
	tər-	<i>makan</i> (eat)	<i>termakan</i> (to have accidentally eaten)
Suffix	-kan	<i>letak</i> (place, keep)	<i>letakkan</i> (keep, put)
	-i	<i>jauh</i> (far)	<i>jauhi</i> (avoid)
Circumfix	bər-...-an	<i>pasang</i> (pair)	<i>berpasangan</i> (in pairs)
	bər-...-kan	<i>dasar</i> (base)	<i>berdasarkan</i> (based on)
	məŋg-...-kan	<i>pasti</i> (sure)	<i>memastikan</i> (to make sure)
	məŋg-...-i	<i>teman</i> (company)	<i>menemani</i> (to accompany)
	məmpər-...-kan	<i>guna</i> (use)	<i>mempergunakan</i> (to utilise, to exploit)
	məmpər-...-i	<i>ajar</i> (teach)	<i>mempelajari</i> (to study)
	kə-...-an	<i>hilang</i> (disappear)	<i>kehilangan</i> (to lose)
	di-...-i	<i>sakit</i> (pain)	<i>disakiti</i> (to be hurt by)
	di-...-kan	<i>benar</i> (right)	<i>dibenarkan</i> (is allowed to)
	dipər-...-kan	<i>kenal</i> (know, recognise)	<i>diperkenalkan</i> (is being introduced)

Adjective affixes

Adjective affixes are attached to root words to form adjectives:

Type of adjective affixes	Affix	Example of root word	Example of derived word
Prefix	tər-	<i>kenal</i> (know)	<i>terkenal</i> (famous)
	sə-	<i>lari</i> (run)	<i>selari</i> (parallel)
Infix	⟨ əl ⟩	<i>serak</i> (disperse)	<i>selerak</i> (messy)
	⟨ əm ⟩	<i>cerlang</i> (radiant bright)	<i>cemerlang</i> (bright, excellent)
	⟨ ər ⟩	<i>sabut</i> (husk)	<i>serabut</i> (dishevelled)
Circumfix	kə-...-an	<i>barat</i> (west)	<i>kebaratan</i> (westernised)

In addition to these affixes, Indonesian also has a lot of borrowed affixes from other languages such as Sanskrit, Arabic and English. For example, *maha-*, *pasca-*, *eka-*, *bi-*, *anti-*, *pro-* etc.

Nouns

Common derivational affixes for nouns are *peng-/per-/juru-* (actor, instrument, or someone characterised by the root), *-an* (collectivity, similarity, object, place, instrument), *ke-...-an* (abstractions and qualities, collectivities), *per-/peng-...-an* (abstraction, place, goal or result).

Gender

Indonesian does not make use of grammatical gender, and there are only selected words that use natural gender. For instance, the same word is used for *he/him* and *she/her* (*dia* or *ia*) or for *his* and *her* (*dia*, *ia* or *-nya*). No real distinction is made between "girlfriend" and "boyfriend", both *pacar* (although more colloquial terms as *cewek* girl/girlfriend and *cowok* boy/boyfriend can

also be found). A majority of Indonesian words that refer to people generally have a form that does not distinguish between the sexes. However, unlike English, distinction is made between older or younger.

There are some words that have gender, for instance *putri* means "daughter", and *putra* means "son" and also *pramugara* means "male flight attendant" and *pramugari* meaning "female flight attendant". Another example would be *olahragawan*, which equates to "sportsman", and *olahragawati*, meaning sportswoman. Often, words like these (or certain suffixes such as "-a" and "-i" or "-wan" and "wati") are absorbed from other languages (in these cases, from Sanskrit through the Old Javanese language). In some regions of Indonesia such as Sumatra and Jakarta, *abang* (a gender-specific term meaning "older brother") is commonly used as a form of address for older siblings/males, while *kakak* (a non-gender specific term meaning "older sibling") is often used to mean "older sister". Similarly, more direct influences from other languages, such as Javanese and Chinese, have also seen further use of other gendered words in Indonesian. For example: *Mas* ("older brother"), *Mbak* ("older sister"), *Koko* ("older brother") and *Cici* ("older sister").

Number

Indonesian grammar does not regularly mark plurals. In Indonesian, to change a singular into a plural one either repeats the word or adds *para* before it (the latter for living things only); for example, "students" can be either *murid-murid* or *para murid*. Plurals are rarely used in Indonesian, especially in informal parlance. Reduplication is often mentioned as the formal way to express the plural form of nouns in Indonesian; however, in informal daily discourse, speakers of Indonesian usually use other methods to indicate the concept of something being "more than one". Reduplication may also indicate the conditions of variety and diversity as well, and not simply plurality.

Reduplication is commonly used to emphasise plurality; however, reduplication has many other functions. For example, *orang-orang* means "(all the) people", but *orang-orangan* means "scarecrow". Similarly, while *hati* means "heart" or "liver", *hati-hati* is a verb meaning "to be careful". Also, not all reduplicated words are inherently plural, such as *orang-orangan* "scarecrow/scarecrows", *biri-biri* "a/some sheep" and *kupu-kupu* "butterfly/butterflies". Some reduplication is rhyming rather than exact, as in *sayur-mayur* "(all sorts of) vegetables".

Distributive affixes derive mass nouns that are effectively plural: *pohon* "tree", *pepohonan* "flora, trees"; *rumah* "house", *perumahan* "housing, houses"; *gunung* "mountain", *pegunungan* "mountain range, mountains".

Quantity words come before the noun: *seribu orang* "a thousand people", *beberapa pegunungan* "a series of mountain ranges", *beberapa kupu-kupu* "some butterflies".

Plural in Indonesian serves just to explicitly mention the number of objects in sentence. For example, *Ani membeli satu kilo mangga* (Ani buys one kilogram of mangoes). In this case, "mangoes", which is plural, is not said as *mangga-mangga* because the plurality is implicit: the amount **a kilogram** means more than one mango. So, as it is logically, one does not change the singular into the plural form, because it is not necessary and considered a pleonasm (in Indonesian often called *pemborosan kata*).

Pronouns

Personal pronouns are not a separate part of speech, but a subset of nouns. They are frequently omitted, and there are numerous ways to say "you". Commonly the person's name, title, title with name, or occupation is used ("does Johnny want to go?", "would Madam like to go?"); kin terms, including fictive kinship, are extremely common. However, there are also dedicated personal pronouns, as well as the demonstrative pronouns *ini* "this, the" and *itu* "that, the".

Personal pronouns

From the perspective of a European language, Indonesian boasts a wide range of different pronouns, especially to refer to the addressee (the so-called second person pronouns). These are used to differentiate several parameters of the person they are referred to, such as the social rank and the relationship between the addressee and the speaker.

The table below provides an overview of the most commonly and widely used pronouns in the Indonesian language:

Common pronouns

Person	Respect	Singular		Plural	
1st person exclusive	Informal, Familiar	<i>aku</i>	I	<i>kami</i>	we (s/he,they, not you)
	Standard, Polite	<i>saya</i>			
1st person inclusive	All			<i>kita</i>	we (s/he,they, and you)
2nd person	Familiar	<i>kamu, engkau, kau</i>	you	<i>kalian</i>	you all
	Polite	<i>anda</i>		<i>anda sekalian</i>	
3rd person	Familiar	<i>dia, ia</i>	s/he, it	<i>mereka</i>	they
	Polite	<i>beliau</i>	s/he		

■ First person pronouns

Notable among the personal-pronoun system is a distinction between two forms of "we": *kita* (you and me, you and us) and *kami* (us, but not you). The distinction is not always followed in colloquial Indonesian.

Saya and *aku* are the two major forms of "I". *Saya* is the more formal form, whereas *aku* is used with family, friends, and between lovers. *Sahaya* is an old or literary form of *saya*. *Sa(ha)ya* may also be used for "we", but in such cases it is usually used with *sekalian* or *semua* "all"; this form is ambiguous as to whether it corresponds with inclusive *kami* or exclusive *kita*. Less common are *hamba* "slave", *hamba tuan*, *hamba datuk* (all extremely humble), *beta* (a royal addressing oneself), *patik* (a commoner addressing a royal), *kami* (royal or editorial "we"), *kita*, *təman*, and *kawan*.

■ Second person pronouns

There are three common forms of "you", *Anda* (polite), *kamu* (familiar), and *kalian* "all" (commonly used as a plural form of you, slightly informal). *Anda* is used with strangers, recent acquaintances, in advertisements, in business, and when you wish to show respect (though terms like *tuan* "sir" and other titles also show respect), while *kamu* is used in situations where the speaker would use *aku* for "I". *Anda sekalian* is polite plural.

Engkau (*əngkau*), commonly shortened to *kau*, and *hang* are used to social inferiors, *awak* to equals, and *əncik* (*cek* before a name) is polite, traditionally used for people without title. The compounds *makcik* and *pakcik* are used with village elders one is well acquainted with or the guest of.

■ Third person pronouns

The common word for "s/he" and "they" is *ia*, which has the object and emphatic/focused form *dia*. *Bəliau* "his/her Honour" is respectful. As with "you", names and kin terms are extremely common. *Mereka* "someone", *mereka itu*, or *orang itu* "those people" are used for "they".

■ Regional varieties

There are a large number of other words for "I" and "you", many regional, dialectical, or borrowed from local languages. *Saudara* "you" (male) and *saudari* (female) (plural *saudara-saudara* or *saudari-saudari*) show utmost respect. *Daku* "I" and *dikau* "you" are poetic or romantic. Indonesian *gua* "I" (from Hokkien Chinese: 我; Pēh-ōe-jī: *góa*) and *lu* "you" (Chinese: 汝; Pēh-ōe-jī: *lú*) are slang and extremely informal.

The pronouns *aku*, *kamu*, *engkau*, *ia*, *kami*, and *kita* are indigenous to Indonesian.

Possessive pronouns

Aku, *kamu*, *engkau*, and *ia* have short possessive enclitic forms. All others retain their full forms like other nouns, as does emphatic *dia*: *meja saya*, *meja kita*, *meja anda*, *meja dia* "my table, our table, your table, his/her table".

Possessed forms of *meja* "table"

Pronoun	Enclitic	Possessed form
aku	-ku	<i>mejaku</i> (my table)
kamu	-mu	<i>mejamu</i> (your table)
ia	-nya	<i>mejanya</i> (his, her, their table)

There are also proclitic forms of *aku*, *ku-* and *kau-*. These are used when there is no emphasis on the pronoun:

***Ku-*dengar raja itu menderita penyakit kulit. *Aku* mengetahui ilmu kedokteran. *Aku-lah* yang akan mengobati dia.**

"It has come to my attention that the King has a skin disease. I am skilled in medicine. *I* will cure him."

Here *ku-*verb is used for a general report, *aku* verb is used for a factual statement, and emphatic *aku-lah meng-*verb (≈ "I am the one who...") for focus on the pronoun.^[61]

Demonstrative pronouns

There are two demonstrative pronouns in Indonesian. *Ini* "this, these" is used for a noun which is generally near to the speaker. *Itu* "that, those" is used for a noun which is generally far from the speaker. Either may sometimes be equivalent to English "the". There is no difference between singular and plural. However, plural can be indicated through duplication of a noun followed by a *ini* or *itu*. The word *yang* "which" is often placed before demonstrative pronouns to give emphasis and a sense of certainty, particularly when making references or enquiries about something/ someone, like English "this one" or "that one".

Pronoun	Indonesian	English
ini	<i>buku ini</i>	This book, these books, the book(s)
	<i>buku-buku ini</i>	These books, (all) the books
itu	<i>kucing itu</i>	That cat, those cats, the cat(s)
	<i>kucing-kucing itu</i>	Those cats, the (various) cats

Pronoun + yang	Example sentence	English meaning
Yang ini	Q: Anda mau membeli buku yang mana?	Q: Which book do you wish to purchase?
	A: Saya mau yang ini .	A: I would like this one .
Yang itu	Q: Kucing mana yang memakan tikusmu?	Q: Which cat ate your mouse?
	A: Yang itu!	A: That one!

Verbs

Verbs are not inflected for person or number, and they are not marked for tense; tense is instead denoted by time adverbs (such as "yesterday") or by other tense indicators, such as *sudah* "already" and *belum* "not yet". On the other hand, there is a complex system of verb affixes to render nuances of meaning and to denote voice or intentional and accidental moods. Some of these affixes are ignored in colloquial speech.

Examples of these are the prefixes *di-* (patient focus, traditionally called "passive voice", with OVA word order in the third person, and OAV in the first or second persons), *meng-* (agent focus, traditionally called "active voice", with AVO word order), *memper-* and *diper-* (causative, agent and patient focus), *ber-* (stative or habitual; intransitive VS order), and *ter-* (agentless actions, such as those which are involuntary, sudden, stative or accidental, for VA = VO order); the suffixes *-kan* (causative or benefactive) and *-i* (locative, repetitive, or exhaustive); and the circumfixes *ber-...-an* (plural subject, diffuse action) and *ke-...-an* (unintentional or potential action or state).

- *duduk* to sit down
- *mendudukkan* to sit someone down, give someone a seat, to appoint
- *menduduki* to sit on, to occupy
- *didudukkan* to be given a seat, to be appointed

- *diduduki* to be sat on, to be occupied
- *terduduk* to sink down, to come to sit
- *kedudukan* to be situated

Forms in *ter-* and *ke-...-an* are often equivalent to adjectives in English.

Negation

Four words are used for negation in Indonesian, namely *tidak*, *bukan*, *jangan*, and *belum*.

- ***Tidak*** (not), often shortened to ***tak***, is used for the negation of verbs and "adjectives".
- ***Bukan*** (be-not) is used in the negation of a noun.

For example:

Indonesian	Gloss	English
Saya <i>tidak</i> tahu (Saya <i>tak</i> tahu)	I not know	I do not know
Ibu saya <i>tidak</i> senang (Ibu saya <i>tak</i> senang)	mother I not be-happy	My mother is not happy
Itu <i>bukan</i> anjing saya	that be-not dog I	That is not my dog

Prohibition

For negating imperatives or advising against certain actions in Indonesian, the word *jangan* (do not) is used before the verb. For example,

- ***Jangan*** tinggalkan saya di sini!
Don't leave me here!
- ***Jangan*** lakukan itu!
Don't do that!
- ***Jangan!*** Itu tidak bagus untukmu.
Don't! That's not good for you.

Adjectives

There are grammatical adjectives in Indonesian. Stative verbs are often used for this purpose as well. Adjectives are always placed after the noun that they modify. Hence, "rumah saya" means "my house", while "saya rumah" means "I am a house".

Indonesian	Gloss	English
<i>Hutan hijau</i>	forest green	(The) green forest.
<i>Hutan itu hijau</i>	forest that green	That/the forest is green.
<i>Kereta yang merah</i>	carriage which (is) red.	(The) carriage which is red = the red carriage.
<i>Kereta merah</i>	carriage red.	Red carriage.
<i>Dia orang yang terkenal sekali</i>	he/she person which be-famous very	He/she is a very famous person
<i>Orang terkenal</i>	person famous.	Famous person.
<i>Orang ini terkenal sekali</i>	person this be-famous very	This person is very famous

To say that something "is" an adjective, the determiners "itu" and "ini" ("that" and "this") are often used. For example, in the sentence "anjing itu galak", the use of "itu" gives a meaning of "the/that dog is ferocious", while "anjing ini galak", gives a meaning of "this dog is ferocious". However, if "itu" or "ini" were not to be used, then "anjing galak" would mean only "ferocious dog", a plain adjective without any stative implications. The all-purpose determiner, "yang", is also often used before

adjectives, hence "anjing yang galak" also means "ferocious dog" or more literally "dog which is ferocious"; "yang" will often be used for clarity. Hence, in a sentence such as "saya didekati oleh anjing galak" which means "I was approached by a ferocious dog", the use of the adjective "galak" is not stative at all.

Often the "ber-" intransitive verb prefix, or the "ter-" stative prefix is used to express the meaning of "to be...". For example, "beda" means "different", hence "berbeda" means "to be different"; "awan" means "cloud", hence "berawan" means "cloudy". Using the "ter-" prefix, implies a state of being. For example, "buka" means "open", hence "terbuka" means "is opened"; "tutup" means "closed/shut", hence "tertutup" means "is closed/shut".

Word order

Adjectives, demonstrative determiners, and possessive determiners follow the noun they modify.

Indonesian does not have a grammatical subject in the sense that English does. In intransitive clauses, the noun comes before the verb. When there is both an agent and an object, these are separated by the verb (OVA or AVO), with the difference encoded in the voice of the verb. OVA, commonly but inaccurately called "passive", is the basic and most common word order.

Either the agent or object or both may be omitted. This is commonly done to accomplish one of two things:

1) Adding a sense of politeness and respect to a statement or question

For example, a polite shop assistant in a store may avoid the use of pronouns altogether and ask:

Ellipses of pronoun (agent & object)	Literal English	Idiomatic English
Bisa <i>dibantu</i> ?	Can + <i>to be helped</i> ?	Can (I) <i>help</i> (you)?

2) Agent or object is unknown, not important, or understood from context

For example, a friend may enquire as to when you bought your property, to which you may respond:

Ellipses of pronoun (understood agent)	Literal English	Idiomatic English
Rumah ini <i>dibeli</i> lima tahun yang lalu	House this + <i>be purchased</i> five-year(s) ago	The house 'was purchased' five years ago

Ultimately, the choice of voice and therefore word order is a choice between actor and patient and depends quite heavily on the language style and context.

Emphasis

Word order is frequently modified for focus or emphasis, with the focused word usually placed at the beginning of the clause and followed by a slight pause (a break in intonation):

- *Saya pergi ke pasar kemarin* "I went to the market yesterday" – neutral, or with focus on the subject.
- *Kemarin saya pergi ke pasar* "Yesterday I went to the market" – emphasis on yesterday.
- *Ke pasar saya pergi, kemarin* "To the market I went yesterday" – emphasis on where I went yesterday.
- *Pergi ke pasar, saya, kemarin* "To the market went I yesterday" – emphasis on the process of going to the market.

The last two are more likely to be encountered in speech than in writing.

Measure words

Another distinguishing feature of Indonesian is its use of measure words, also called classifiers (*kata penggolong*). In this way, it is similar to many other languages of Asia, including Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Thai, Burmese, and Bengali.

Measure words are also found in English such as *two head of cattle*, *a loaf of bread*, or *this sheet of paper*, where **two cattle*, *a bread*, and *this paper* (in the sense of *this piece of paper*) would be ungrammatical. The word *satu* reduces to *se-* /sə/, as it does in other compounds:

Measure word	Used for measuring	Literal translation	Example
buah	things (in general), large things, abstract nouns houses, cars, ships, mountains; books, rivers, chairs, some fruits, thoughts, etc.	'fruit'	dua buah meja (two tables), lima buah rumah (five houses)
ekor	animals	'tail'	seekor ayam (a chicken), tiga ekor kambing (three goats)
orang	human beings	'person'	seorang laki-laki (a man), enam orang petani (six farmers), seratus orang murid (a hundred students)
biji	smaller rounded objects most fruits, cups, nuts	'grain'	sebiju/ sebutir telur (an egg), sebutir/ butiran-butiran beras (rice or rices)
batang	long stiff things trees, walking sticks, pencils	'trunk, rod'	sebatang tongkat (a stick)
helai	things in thin layers or sheets paper, cloth, feathers, hair	'leaf'	sepuluh helai pakaian (ten cloths)
keping keping	flat fragments slabs of stone, pieces of wood, pieces of bread, land, coins, paper	'chip'	sekeping uang logam (a coin)
pucuk	letters, firearms, needles	'sprout'	sepucuk senjata (a weapon)
bilah	things which cut lengthwise and thicker	'blade'	sebilah kayu (a piece of wood)
bidang	things which can be measured with number	'field'	sebidang tanah/lahan (an area)
potong	bread	'cut'	sepotong roti (slices of bread)
utas	nets, cords, ribbons	'thread'	seutas tali (a rope)
carik	things easily torn, like paper	'shred'	secarik kertas (a piece of paper)

Example: Measure words are not necessary just to say "a": *burung* "a bird, birds". Using *se-* plus a measure word is closer to English "one" or "a certain":

Ada seekor burung yang bisa berbicara
 "There was a (certain) bird that could talk"

Writing system

Indonesian is written with the Latin script. It was originally based on the Dutch spelling and still bears some similarities to it. Consonants are represented in a way similar to Italian, although ⟨c⟩ is always /tʃ/ (like English ⟨ch⟩), ⟨g⟩ is always /g/ ("hard") and ⟨j⟩ represents /dʒ/ as it does in English. In addition, ⟨ny⟩ represents the palatal nasal /ɲ/, ⟨ng⟩ is used for the velar nasal /ŋ/ (which can occur word-initially), ⟨sy⟩ for /ʃ/ (English ⟨sh⟩) and ⟨kh⟩ for the voiceless velar fricative /x/. Both /e/ and /ə/ are represented with ⟨e⟩.

Spelling changes in the language that have occurred since Indonesian independence include:

Phoneme	Obsolete spelling	Modern spelling
/u/	oe	u
/tʃ/	tj	c
/dʒ/	dj	j
/j/	j	y
/ɲ/	nj	ny
/ʃ/	sj	sy
/x/	ch	kh

Introduced in 1901, the *van Ophuijsen system*, (named from the advisor of the system, Charles Adriaan van Ophuijsen) was the first standardisation of romanised spelling. It was most influenced by the then current Dutch spelling system. In 1947, the spelling was changed into *Republican Spelling* or *Soewandi Spelling* (named by at the time Minister of Education, Soewandi). This spelling changed formerly spelled *oe* into *u* (however, the spelling influenced other aspects in orthography, for example writing reduplicated words). All of the other changes were a part of the Perfected Spelling System, an officially mandated spelling reform in 1972. Some of the old spellings (which were derived from Dutch orthography) do survive in proper names;

for example, the name of a former president of Indonesia is still sometimes written *Soeharto*, and the central Java city of Yogyakarta is sometimes written *Jogjakarta*. In time, the spelling system is further updated and the latest update of Indonesian spelling system issued on 26 November 2015 by Minister of Education and Culture decree No 50/2015.

Letter names and pronunciations

The Indonesian alphabet is exactly the same as in ISO basic Latin alphabet.

Majuscule Forms																									
<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>J</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>Q</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Z</u>
Minuscule Forms																									
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z

Indonesian follows the letter names of the Dutch alphabet. Indonesian alphabet has a phonemic orthography; words are spelled the way they are pronounced, with few exceptions. The letters Q, V and X are rarely encountered, being chiefly used for writing loanwords.

Letter	Name (in <u>IPA</u>)	Sound (in <u>IPA</u>)	English equivalent
Aa	a (/a/)	/a/	a as in father
Bb	be (/be/)	/b/	b as in bed
Cc	ce (/t͡ʃe/)	/t͡ʃ/	ch as in check
Dd	de (/de/)	/d/	d as in day
Ee	e (/e/)	/e/	e as in red
Ff	ef (/ef/)	/f/	f as in effort
Gg	ge (/ge/)	/g/	g as in gain
Hh	ha (/ha/)	/h/	h as in harm
Ii	i (/i/)	/i/	i as in pin
Jj	je (/d͡ʒe/)	/d͡ʒ/	j as in jam
Kk	ka (/ka/)	/k/	k as in skate
Ll	el (/el/)	/l/	l as in let
Mm	em (/em/)	/m/	m as in mall
Nn	en (/en/)	/n/	n as in net
Oo	o (/o/)	/o/	o as in owe
Pp	pe (/pe/)	/p/	p as in speak
Qq	qi or qiu (/ki/ or /kiu/)	/k/	q as in queen
Rr	er (/er/)	/r/	Spanish rr as in puerro
Ss	es (/es/)	/s/	s as in sun
Tt	te (/te/)	/t/	unaspirated t as in still
Uu	u (/u/)	/u/	u as in pull
Vv	ve (/ve/ or /fe/)	/v/ or /f/	v as in van
Ww	we (/we/)	/w/	w as in wet
Xx	ex (/eks/)	/ks/ or /s/	x as in box
Yy	ye (/je/)	/j/	y as in yarn
Zz	zet (/zet/)	/z/	z as in zebra

In addition, there are digraphs that are not considered separate letters of the alphabet.^[62]

Digraph	Sound	English equivalent
ai	/aɪ/	uy as in buy
au	/aʊ/	ou as in ouch
oi	/oɪ/	oy as in boy
ei	/eɪ/	ey as in survey
gh	/ɣ/ or /x/	similar to Dutch and German ch , but voiced
kh	/x/	ch as in loch
ng	/ŋ/	ng as in sing
ny	/ɲ/	Spanish ñ ; similar to ny as in canyon with a nasal sound
sy	/ʃ/	sh as in shoe

Vocabulary

As a modern variety of Malay, Indonesian has been influenced by other languages, including Dutch, English, Arabic, Chinese, Portuguese, Sanskrit, Tamil, Hindi, and Persian. It is estimated that there are some 750 Sanskrit loanwords in modern Indonesian, 1,000 Arabic loans, some of Persian and Hebrew origin, some 125 words of Portuguese, some of Spanish and Italian origin, and 10,000 loanwords from Dutch.^[63] The vast majority of Indonesian words, however, come from the root lexical stock of Austronesian (including Old Malay).^[20]

The study of Indonesian etymology and loan words reveals both its historical and social contexts. Examples are the early Sanskrit borrowings from the 7th century during the trading era, the borrowings from Arabic and Persian during the time of the establishment of Islam in particular, and those from Dutch during the colonial period. Linguistic history and cultural history are clearly linked.^[64]

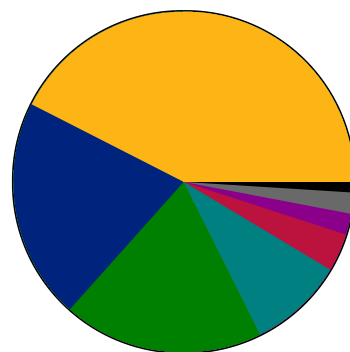
List of loan words of Indonesian language published by the *Badan Pengembangan Bahasa dan Perbukuan* (The Language Center) under the Ministry of Education and Culture.^[65]

Language origin	Number of words
Dutch	3280
English	1610
Arabic	1495
Sanskrit	677
Chinese	290
Portuguese	131
Tamil	131
Persian	63
Hindi	7

Note: This list only lists foreign languages, and thus omitting numerous local languages of Indonesia that have also been major lexical donors, such as Javanese, Sundanese, Betawi, etc. For a more complete list of these, see List of loanwords in Indonesian.

Loan words of Sanskrit origin

The Sanskrit influence came from contacts with India since ancient times. The words were either borrowed directly from India or with the intermediary of the Old Javanese language. Although Hinduism and Buddhism are no longer the major religions of Indonesia, Sanskrit, which was the language vehicle for these religions, is still held in high esteem and is comparable with the status of Latin in English and other Western European languages. Sanskrit is also the main source for neologisms, these are usually formed from Sanskrit roots. The loanwords from Sanskrit cover many aspects of religion, art and everyday life.



A pie chart showing percentage of other languages contribute on loan words of Indonesian language.

- ☐ Dutch (42.5%)
- ☐ English (20.9%)
- ☐ Arabic (19%)
- ☐ Sanskrit and Hindi (9%)
- ☐ Chinese (3.6%)
- ☐ Portuguese (2%)
- ☐ Tamil (2%)
- ☐ Persian (1%)



National emblem of Indonesia, Indonesian National Police, Indonesian Air Force and Indonesian Army mottos are *Bhinneka Tunggal Ika*, *Rastra Sewakottama*, *Swa Bhuwana Paksa*, *Kartika Eka Paksi*, all in Sanskrit language.

From Sanskrit came such words as स्वर्ग *surga* (heaven), भाषा *bahasa* (language), काच *kaca* (glass, mirror), राज- *raja* (king), मनुष्य *manusia* (mankind), चिन्ता *cinta* (love), भूमि *bumi* (earth), भुवन *buana* (world), आगम *agama* (religion), स्त्री *Istri* (wife/woman), जय *Jaya* (victory/victorious), पुर *Pura* (city/temple/place) राक्षस *Raksasa* (giant/monster), धर्म *Dharma* (rule/regulations), मन्त्र *Mantra* (words/poet/spiritual prayers), क्षत्रिय *Satria* (warrior/brave/soldier), विजय *Wijaya* (greatly victorious/great victory), etc. Sanskrit words and sentences are also used in names, titles, and mottos of the Indonesian National Police and Indonesian Armed Forces such as: *Bhayangkara*, *Laksamana*, *Jatayu*, *Garuda*, *Dharmakerta Marga Reksyaka*, *Jalesveva Jayamahe*, *Kartika Eka Paksi*, *Swa Bhuwana Paksa*, *Rastra Sewakottama*, *Yudha Siaga*, etc.

Because Sanskrit has long been known in the Indonesian archipelago, Sanskrit loanwords, unlike those from other languages, have entered the basic vocabulary of Indonesian to such an extent that, for many, they are no longer perceived to be foreign. Therefore, one could write a short story using mostly Sanskrit words. The short story below consists of approximately 80 words in Indonesian that are written using Sanskrit words alone, except for a few pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions and affixes.

Karena semua dibiayai dana negara jutaan rupiah, sang mahaguru sastra bahasa Kawi dan mahasiswa-mahasiswinya, duta-duta negeri mitra, Menteri Kebudayaan dan Pariwisata suami-istri, beserta karyawan-karyawati lembaga nirlaba segera berdharmawisata ke pedesaan di utara kota kabupaten Probolinggo antara candi-candi purba, berwahana keledai di kala senja dan bersama kepala desa menyaksikan para tani yang berjiwa bersahaja serta berbudi nirmala secara berbahagia berupacara, seraya merdu menyuarakan gita-gita mantra, yang merupakan sarana pujian mereka memuja nama suci Pertiwi, Dewi Bumi yang bersedia menganugerahi mereka karunia dan restu, meraksa dari bahaya, mala petaka dan bencana.

Loan words of Chinese origin

The relationship with China has been going since the 7th century when Chinese merchants traded in some areas of the archipelago such as Riau, West Borneo, East Kalimantan, and North Maluku. At the kingdom of Srivijaya appeared and flourished, China opened diplomatic relations with the kingdom in order to secure trade and seafaring. In 922, Chinese travelers visited Kahuripan in East Java. Since the 11th century, hundreds of thousands of Chinese migrants left Mainland China and settled in many parts of Nusantara (now called Indonesia).

The Chinese loanwords are usually concerned with cuisine, trade or often just things exclusively Chinese. Words of Chinese origin (presented here with accompanying Hokkien/ Mandarin pronunciation derivatives as well as traditional and simplified characters) include *pisau* (匕首 bǐshǒu – knife), *loteng*, (樓/層 = lóu/céng – [upper] floor/ level), *mie* (麵 > 面 Hokkien mī – noodles), *lumpia* (潤餅 (Hokkien = lūn-piáⁿ) – springroll), *cawan* (茶碗 cháwǎn – teacup), *teko* (茶壺 > 茶壺 = cháhú [Mandarin], teh-ko [Hokkien] = teapot), 苦力 kuli = 苦 khu (hard) and 力 li (energy) and even the widely used slang terms *gua* and *lu* (from the Hokkien 'goa' 我 and 'lu/li' 汝 – meaning 'I/ me' and 'you').

Loan words of Arabic origin

Many Arabic words were brought and spread by merchants from Arab Peninsula like Arabian, Persian, and from the western part of India, Gujarat where many Muslims lived.^[66] As a result, many Indonesian words come from the Arabic language. Especially since the late 12th century, Old Malay was heavily influenced by the language and produced many great literary

works such as *Syair*, *Babad*, *Hikayat*, and *Suluk*. This century is known as *The Golden Age of Indonesian Literature*.^[66]

Many loanwords from Arabic are mainly concerned with religion, in particular with Islam, and by extension, with greetings such as the word, "selamat" (from Arabic: سلامة *salāma* = health, soundness)^[67] means "safe" or "lucky". Words of Arabic origin include *dunia* (from Arabic: دنيا *dunyā* = the present world), names of days (except *Minggu*), such as *Sabtu* (from Arabic: سبت *sabt-u* = Saturday), *iklan* (إعلان *i 'lan* = advertisement), *kabar* (خبر *khavar* = news), *Kursi* (كرسي *kursī* = a chair), *jumat* (جمعة *jum 'a* = Friday), *ijazah* (إجازة *ijāza* = 'permission', certificate of authority, e.g. a school diploma certificate), *kitab* (كتاب *kitāb* = book), *tertib* (ترتيب *tartīb* = order/arrangement) and *kamus* (قاموس *qāmūs* = dictionary). Allah (الله *al-lah*), as it is mostly the case for Arabic speakers, is the word for God even in Christian Bible translations. Many early Bible translators, when they came across some unusual Hebrew words or proper names, used the Arabic cognates. In the newer translations this practice is discontinued. They now turn to Greek names or use the original Hebrew Word. For example, the name Jesus was initially translated as *'Isa* (عيسى), but is now spelt as *Yesus*. Several ecclesiastical terms derived from Arabic still exist in Indonesian language. Indonesian word for *bishop* is *uskup* (from Arabic: أسقف *usquf* = bishop). This in turn makes the Indonesian term for archbishop *uskup agung* (literally *great bishop*), which is combining the Arabic word with an Old Javanese word. The term *imam* (from Arabic: إمام *imām* = leader, prayer leader) is used to translate a Catholic priest, beside its more common association with an Islamic prayer leader. Some Protestant denominations refer to their congregation *jemaat* (from Arabic: جماعة *jamā 'a* = group, a community). Even the name of the Bible in Indonesian translation is *Alkitab* (from Arabic: الكتاب *al-kitāb* = the book), which literally means "the Book".



The word *masjid* (mosque) in Indonesian derived from Arabic word *masjid* (مسجد).

Loan words of Portuguese origin

Alongside Malay, Portuguese was the *lingua franca* for trade throughout the archipelago from the sixteenth century through to the early nineteenth century. The Portuguese were among the first westerners to sail eastwards to the "Spice Islands". Loanwords from Portuguese were mainly connected with articles that the early European traders and explorers brought to Southeast Asia. Indonesian words derived from Portuguese include *meja* (from *mesa* = table), *bangku* (from *banco* = bench), *lemari/almari* (from *armário* = closet), *boneka* (from *boneca* = doll), *jendela* (from *janela* = window), *Gereja* (from *Igreja* = Church), *Misa* (from *Missa* = Mass), *Natal* (from *Natal* = Christmas), *Paskah* (from *Páscoa* = Easter), *pesta* (from *festa* = party), *dansa* (from *dança* = dance), *pesiar* (from *passear* = cruise), *bendera* (from *bandeira* = flag), *sepatu* (from *sapato* = shoes), *garpu* (from *garfo* = fork), *kemeja* (from *camisa* = shirt), *kereta* (from *carreta* = chariot), *pompa* (from *bomba hidráulica* = pump), *pigura* (from *figura* = picture), *roda* (from *roda* = wheel), *nona* (from *dona* = young woman), *sekolah* (from *escola* = school), *lentera* (from *lanterna* = lantern), *paderi* (from *padre* = priest), *Santo*, *Santa* (from *Santo*, *Santa* = Saint), *puisi* (from *poesia* = poetry), *keju* (from *queijo* = cheese), *mentega* (from *manteiga* = butter), *serdadu* (from *soldado* = soldier), *meski* (from *mas que* = although), *kamar* (from *câmara* = room), *laguna* (from *laguna* = lagoon), *lelang* (from *leilão* = auction), *persero* (from *parceiro* = company), *markisa* (from *maracujá* = passion fruit), *limau* (from *limão* = lemon), *kartu* (from *cartão* = card), *Inggris* (from *inglês* = English), *Sabtu* (from *sábado* = Saturday), *Minggu* (from *domingo* = Sunday), etc.^[68]



Indonesian word "*Gereja*" (Church) is derived from Portuguese "*Igreja*". The sign reads: "*Gereja & Candi Hati Kudus Tuhan Yesus Ganjuran Keuskupan Agung Semarang*" (The Church and Temple of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Ganjuran Archdiocese of Semarang).

Loan words of Dutch origin

The former colonial power, the Netherlands, left a sizeable amount of vocabulary that can be seen in words such as *polisi* (from *politie* = police), *kualitas* (from *kwaliteit* = quality), *aktual* (from *actueel* = current), *rokok* (from *roken* = smoking cigarettes), *korupsi* (from *corruptie* = corruption), *kantor* (from *kantoor* = office), *resleting* (from *ritssluiting* = zipper), *pelopor* (from *voorloper* = frontrunner), *persneling* (from *versnelling* = transmission gear), *setrum* (from *stroom* = electricity current), *maskapai* (from *maatschappij* = company), *apotek* (from *apotheek* = pharmacy), *handuk* (from *handdoek* = towel), *setrika* (from *strijkijzer* = clothes iron), *bioskop* (from *bioscoop* = cinema), *spanduk* (from *spandoeken* = banner), *korsleting* (from *kortsluiting* = short circuit), *om* (from *oom* = uncle), *tante* (from *tante* = aunt), *traktir* (from *trakteer* = treat) and *gratis* (from *gratis* = free). These Dutch loanwords, and many other non-Italo-Iberian, European language loanwords that came via Dutch, cover all aspects of life. Some Dutch loanwords, having clusters of several consonants, pose difficulties to speakers of Indonesian. This problem is usually solved by insertion of the schwa. For example, Dutch *schroef* ['sxruf] > *sekrup* [sə 'krup] (screw (n.)). One scholar argues that 20% of Indonesian words are inspired by the Dutch language.^[69]

Before the standardisation of the language, many Indonesian words follow standard Dutch alphabet and pronunciation such as "oe" for vowel "u" or "dj" for consonant "j" [dʒ]. As a result, Malay words are written with that orthography such as: *passer* for the word *Pasar* or *djalan* for the word *jalan*, older Indonesian generation tend to have their name written in such order as well.

Loan words of English origin

Many English words were incorporated into Indonesian through globalisation. Many Indonesians, however, mistake words already adopted from Dutch as words borrowed from English. This is due to the Germanic traces that exist in the two languages. Indonesian adopts English words with standardisation. For example: *imajinasi* from imagination, *universitas* from university, *aksesori* from accessory, *geografi* from geography, *konservatif* from conservative, *rutin* from routine, and so on.^[70] However, there are several words that directly borrowed without standardisation that have same meanings in English such as: *bus*, *data*, *domain*, *detail*, *internet*, *film*, *golf*, *lift*, *monitor*, *radio*, *radar*, *unit*, *safari*, *sonar*, and *video*, *riil* as *real*.^[70]



Chunghua bioscoop (now *bioskop* = cinema), Glodok, Jakarta in 1953.

Other loan words

Modern Indonesian draws many of its words from foreign sources, there are many synonyms. For example, Indonesian has three words for "book", i.e. *pustaka* (from Sanskrit), *kitab* (from Arabic) and *buku* (from Dutch *boek*); however, each has a slightly different meaning. A *pustaka* is often connected with ancient wisdom or sometimes with esoteric knowledge. A derived form, *perpustakaan* means a library. A *kitab* is usually a religious scripture or a book containing moral guidance. The Indonesian words for the Bible and Gospel are *Alkitab* and *Injil*, both directly derived from Arabic. The book containing the penal code is also called the *kitab*. *Buku* is the most common word for books.

There are direct borrowings from various other languages of the world, such as *karaoke* (from カラオケ) from Japanese, and *ebi* (from えび) which means dried shrimp. Many words that originally are adopted through the Dutch language today however often are mistaken as English due to the similarity in the Germanic nature of both languages. In some cases the words are replaced by English language through globalisation: although the word *arbei* (Dutch: *aardbei*) still literally means strawberry in Indonesian, today the usage of the word *stroberi* is more common. Greek words such as *demokrasi* (from δημοκρατία *dēmokratía*), *filosofi* (from φιλοσοφία *philosophia*), *mitos* (from μῦθος *mythos*) came through Dutch, Arabic and Portuguese respectively.

It is notable that some of the loanwords that exist in both Indonesian and Malaysian languages are different in spelling and pronunciation mainly due to how they derived their origins: Malaysian utilises words that reflect the English usage (as used by its former colonial power, the British), while Indonesian uses a Latin form reflected in the Dutch usage (e.g. *aktiviti* (Malaysian) vs. *aktivitas* (Indonesian), *universiti* (Malaysian) vs. *universitas* (Indonesian)).

Literature

Indonesia hosts a variety of traditional verbal arts such as poetry, historical narratives, romances, and drama; which are expressed in local languages, but modern genres are expressed mainly through Indonesian.^[8] Some of classic Indonesian stories include *Sitti Nurbaya* by Marah Rusli, *Azab dan Sengsara* by Merari Siregar, and *Sengsara Membawa Nikmat* by Tulis Sutan Sati.^{[71][72]} Modern literature like novels, short stories, stage plays, and free-form poetry has developed since the late years of the 19th century and has produced such internationally recognised figures as novelist Pramoedya Ananta Toer, dramatist W.S. Rendra, poet Chairil Anwar, and cinematographer Garin Nugroho.^[73] Indonesia's classic novels itself, have their own charm, offering insight into local culture and traditions and the historical background before and immediately after the country gained independence. One notable example is *Shackles* which was written by Armijn Pane in 1940. Originally titled *Belenggu* and translated into many languages, including English and German.^[74]

As speakers of other languages

Over the past few years, interest in learning Indonesian has grown among non-Indonesians.^[75] Various universities have started to offer courses that emphasise the teaching of the language to non-Indonesians. In addition to National Universities, private institutions have also started to offer courses, like the Indonesia Australia Language Foundation and the *Lembaga Indonesia Amerika*. As early as 1988, teachers of the language have expressed the importance of a standardised *Bahasa Indonesia bagi*

Penutur Asing (also called **BIPA**, literally *Indonesian Language for Foreign Speaker*) materials (mostly books), and this need became more evident during the 4th International Congress on the Teaching of Indonesian to Speakers of Other Languages held in 2001.^[76]

Since 2013, the Indonesian Embassy in the Philippines has given basic Indonesian language courses to 16 batches of Filipino students, as well as training to members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Due to increasing demand among students, the Embassy will open an intermediate Indonesian language course later in the year. In an interview, Department of Education Secretary Armin Luistro^[77] said that the country's government should promote Indonesian or Malay, which are related to Filipino. Thus, the possibility of offering it as an optional subject in public schools is being studied.

The Indonesian Embassy in Washington, D.C., USA also began offering free Indonesian language courses at the beginner and intermediate level.^[78]

Words

Numbers

Cardinal



BIPA (Bahasa Indonesia untuk Penutur Asing) book, which helps foreigners to learn the Indonesian language effectively.



An old one thousand Indonesian Rupiah banknote, featuring Indonesian national hero Thomas Matulesy.

Number	English	Indonesian
0	zero	nol or kosong [<i>no</i>] or [<i>ko•song</i>]
1	one	satu [<i>sa•tu</i>]
2	two	dua [<i>du•(w)a</i>]
3	three	tiga [<i>ti•ga</i>]
4	four	empat [<i>ə•pat</i>]
5	five	lima [<i>li•ma</i>]
6	six	enam [<i>ə•nam</i>]
7	seven	tujuh [<i>tu•dʒuh</i>]
8	eight	delapan [<i>də•la•pan</i>]
9	nine	sembilan [<i>sə•bi•lan</i>]
10	ten	sepuluh [<i>sə•pu•luh</i>]
11	eleven	sebelas [<i>sə•bə•las</i>]
12	twelve	dua belas [<i>du•(w)a bə•las</i>]
13	thirteen	tiga belas [<i>ti•ga bə•las</i>]
14	fourteen	empat belas [<i>ə•pat bə•las</i>]
15	fifteen	lima belas [<i>li•ma bə•las</i>]
20	twenty	dua puluh [<i>du•(w)a pu•luh</i>]
21	twenty one	dua puluh satu [<i>du•(w)a pu•luh sa•tu</i>]
30	thirty	tiga puluh [<i>ti•ga pu•luh</i>]
100	one hundred	seratus [<i>sə•ra•tus</i>]
200	two hundred	dua ratus [<i>du•(w)a ra•tus</i>]
210	two hundred ten	dua ratus sepuluh [<i>du•(w)a ra•tus sə•pu•luh</i>]
897	eight hundred ninety seven	delapan ratus sembilan puluh tujuh [<i>də•la•pan ra•tus sem•bi•lan pu•luh tu•dʒuh</i>]
1000	one thousand	seribu [<i>sə•ri•bu</i>]
10000	ten thousand	sepuluh ribu [<i>sə•pu•luh ri•bu</i>]
100000	one hundred thousand	seratus ribu [<i>sə•ra•tus ri•bu</i>]
1000000	one million	sejuta or satu juta [<i>sə•dʒu•ta</i>] or [<i>sa•tu dʒu•ta</i>]
1000000000	one billion	satu miliar [<i>sa•tu mi•li•(j)ar</i>] or [<i>sa•tu mil•jar</i>]
1000000000000	one trillion	satu triliun [<i>sa•tu tri•li•(j)un</i>] or [<i>sa•tu tril•jun</i>]

Ordinal

Number	English	Indonesian
1st	first	pertama <i>[pə•ta•ma]</i>
2nd	second	kedua <i>[kə•du•(w)a]</i>
3rd	third	ketiga <i>[kə•ti•ga]</i>
4th	fourth	keempat <i>[kə•əm•pat]</i>
5th	fifth	kelima <i>[kə•li•ma]</i>
6th	sixth	keenam <i>[kə•ə•nam]</i>
7th	seventh	ketujuh <i>[kə•tu•dʒuh]</i>
8th	eighth	kedelapan <i>[kə•də•la•pan]</i>
9th	ninth	kesembilan <i>[kə•səm•bi•lan]</i>
10th	tenth	kese puluh <i>[kə•sə•pu•luh]</i>

Days and months

Days

English	Indonesian
Monday	Senin <i>[sə•nin]</i>
Tuesday	Selasa <i>[sə•la•sa]</i>
Wednesday	Rabu <i>[ra•bu]</i>
Thursday	Kamis <i>[ka•mis]</i>
Friday	Jumat <i>[dʒum•at]</i>
Saturday	Sabtu <i>[sab•tu]</i>
Sunday	Minggu <i>[min•gu]</i>

Months

English	Indonesian
January	Januari <i>[dʒa•nu•(w)a•ri]</i>
February	Februari <i>[fɛb•ru•(w)a•ri]</i>
March	Maret <i>[ma•rət]</i>
April	April <i>[ap•ril]</i>
May	Mei <i>[meɪ]</i>
June	Juni <i>[dʒu•ni•]</i>
July	Juli <i>[dʒu•li]</i>
August	Agustus <i>[a•gus•tus]</i>
September	September <i>[sɛp•tɛm•bər]</i>
October	Oktober <i>[ok•to•bər]</i>
November	November <i>[no•fɛm•bər]</i>
December	Desember <i>[dɛ•sɛm•bər]</i>

Common phrases



An Indonesian-language calendar

English	Indonesian	Spelling (in IPA)
Hello!	<i>Halo!</i>	[' halo]
Good morning!	<i>Selamat pagi!</i>	[sə'lamat ' pagi]
Good afternoon!	<i>Selamat siang!</i>	[sə ' lamat ' sian]
Good evening! or Good night!	<i>Selamat malam!</i>	[sə ' lamat ' malam]
Goodbye!	<i>Selamat tinggal!</i>	[sə'lamat ' tinggal]
See you later!	<i>Sampai jumpa lagi!</i>	[' sampai ' dʒumpa ' lagi]
Thank you	<i>Terima kasih</i> (standard, formal)	[tə ' rima ' kasih]
Thanks	<i>Makasih</i> (colloquial)	[ma ' kasih]
You are welcome	<i>Sama-sama</i> or <i>terima kasih kembali</i>	[' sa'ma ' sama] or [tə ' rima ' kasih kəm'balɪ]
Yes	<i>Ya</i> or <i>iya</i>	[' ja] or [' ija]
No	<i>Tidak</i>	[' tidaʔ]
And	<i>Dan</i>	[' dan]
Or	<i>Atau</i>	[a'tau]
Because	<i>Karena</i>	[' karəna]
Therefore	<i>Karena itu</i>	[' karəna ' ?itu]
Nothing	<i>Tidak ada</i>	[' tidaʔ ' ada]
Maybe	<i>Mungkin</i>	[' munʒin]
How are you?	<i>Apa kabar?</i>	[' apa ' kabar]
I am fine	<i>Baik</i> or <i>Baik-baik saja</i>	[' baik] or [' baik ' baik ' sadʒa]
Have a nice day!	<i>Semoga hari Anda menyenangkan!</i>	[sə'moga ' hari ' ?anda məɲə ' naŋkan]
Bon appétit!	<i>Selamat makan!</i> or <i>Selamat menikmati!</i>	[sə'lamat ' makan] or [sə ' lamat mənik ' mati]
I am sorry	<i>Maafkan saya</i>	[ma'ʔafkan ' saja]
Excuse me	<i>Permisi</i>	[pər'misi]
What?	<i>Apa?</i>	[' apa]
Who?	<i>Siapa?</i>	[si ' apa]
When?	<i>Kapan?</i>	[' kapan]
Where?	<i>Di mana?</i>	[di ' mana]
Why?	<i>Mengapa?</i>	[mə'ŋapa]
How?	<i>Bagaimana?</i>	[bagaɪ'mana]
How much?	<i>Berapa?</i>	[bə'rapa]
What is your name?	<i>Nama Anda siapa?</i>	[' nama ' ?anda si ' apa]
My name is...	<i>Nama saya...</i>	[' nama ' saja]
Do you know?	<i>Apakah Anda tahu?</i>	[a ' pakah ' ?anda ' tahu]
Yes, I know / No, I do not know	<i>Ya, saya tahu / Tidak, saya tidak tahu</i>	[' ja ' saja ' tahu] / [' tidaʔ ' saja ' tidaʔ ' tahu]
Can you speak Indonesian?	<i>Bisakah Anda berbicara bahasa Indonesia?</i>	[bi ' sakah ' ?anda bərbi'tʃara ba ' hasa indo ' nesɪa]
Yes, I can speak Indonesian / No, I can not speak Indonesian	<i>Ya, saya bisa berbicara bahasa Indonesia / Tidak, saya tidak bisa berbicara bahasa indonesia</i>	[' ja ' saja ' bisa bərbi ' tʃara ba ' hasa Indo ' nesɪa] / [' tidaʔ ' saja ' tidaʔ ' bisa bərbi ' tʃara ba ' hasa indo ' nesɪa]

What time is it now?	<i>Pukul berapa sekarang?</i>	['pukul bæ'rapa sə 'karaŋ]
It is 5.00 o'clock	<i>Sekarang pukul 5.00</i>	[sə 'karaŋ 'pukul 'lima]
When will you go to the party?	<i>Kapan Anda akan pergi ke pesta itu?</i>	['kapan 'ʔanda 'ʔakan pər'gi ke 'pesta 'ʔitu]
Soon	<i>Nanti</i>	['nanti]
Today	<i>Hari ini</i>	['hari 'ʔini]
Tomorrow	<i>Besok</i>	['besok]
The day after tomorrow	<i>Lusa</i>	['lusa]
Yesterday	<i>Kemarin</i>	[kə'marin]
Congratulations!	<i>Selamat!</i>	[sə'lamat]
Happy New Year!	<i>Selamat Tahun Baru!</i>	[sə'lamat 'tahun 'baru]
Merry Christmas!	<i>Selamat Natal!</i>	[sə'lamat 'natal]
Please	<i>Mohon or tolong</i>	['mohon] or ['tolon]
Stop!	<i>Berhenti!</i>	[bər'henti]
I am happy	<i>Saya senang</i>	['saja sə'naŋ]
I understand	<i>Saya mengerti</i>	['saja 'məŋərti]
Help!	<i>Tolong!</i>	['tolon]
I need help	<i>Saya memerlukan bantuan</i>	['saja məmə'r lukan ban'tuan]
Can you help me?	<i>Bisakah Anda menolong saya?</i>	[bi 'sakah 'ʔanda mə'nolon 'saja]
Can I help you? / Do you need help?	<i>Dapatkah saya membantu Anda? / Apakah Anda membutuhkan bantuan?</i>	[da'patkah 'saja məm'bantu 'ʔanda] / [a 'pakah 'ʔanda məmbu'tuhkan ban'tuan]
May I borrow your eraser?	<i>Bolehkah saya meminjam penghapus Anda?</i>	[bo 'lehhkah 'saja mə'minjam pər'hapus 'ʔanda]
With my pleasure	<i>Dengan senang hati</i>	[də 'ŋan sə'naŋ 'hati]
Welcome	<i>Selamat datang</i>	[sə'lamat 'datan]
Welcome to Indonesia	<i>Selamat datang di Indonesia</i>	[sə'lamat 'datan di ʔindo 'nesǐa]
I agree / I disagree	<i>Saya setuju / Saya tidak setuju</i>	['saja sə'tudʒu] / ['saja 'tidaʔ sə'tudʒu]
I understand / I do not understand	<i>Saya mengerti / Saya tidak mengerti</i>	['saja 'məŋərti] / ['saja 'tidaʔ 'məŋərti]
I am hungry	<i>Saya lapar</i>	['saja 'lapar]
I am thirsty	<i>Saya haus</i>	['saja 'haus]
I am sick	<i>Saya sakit</i>	['saja 'sakit]
Get well soon	<i>Semoga cepat sembuh</i>	[sə'moga tʃə'pat səm 'buh]

Example

The following texts are excerpts from the official translations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in Indonesian and Malay, along with the original declaration in English.

English ^[79]	Indonesian ^[80]	Malay ^[81]
Universal Declaration of Human Rights	Pernyataan Umum tentang Hak Asasi Manusia	Perisytiharan Hak Asasi Manusia sejagat
Article 1	Pasal 1	Perkara 1
<i>All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.</i>	<i>Semua orang dilahirkan merdeka dan mempunyai martabat dan hak-hak yang sama. Mereka dikaruniai akal dan hati nurani dan hendaknya bergaul satu sama lain dalam semangat persaudaraan.</i>	<i>Semua manusia dilahirkan bebas dan sama rata dari segi maruah dan hak-hak. Mereka mempunyai pemikiran dan perasaan hati dan hendaklah bergaul dengan semangat persaudaraan.</i>

See also

- Austronesian languages
- Bahasa, for other languages referred to as *bahasa*
- Language families and languages
- Malay language
- Demographics of Indonesia
- Indonesian slang language
- Indonesian abbreviated words
- Comparison of Standard Malay and Indonesian
- List of English words of Indonesian origin
- List of loanwords in Indonesian

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External links

- How many people speak Indonesian? (<http://ipll.manoa.hawaii.edu/indonesian/2012/03/10/how-many-people-speak-indonesian/>)
- free language resource (<https://web.archive.org/web/20130510080806/http://indonesiantravelguide.com/>)
- Learning Indonesian (<http://www.javaans.net/bahasa.htm>)
- Indonesian Swadesh list of basic vocabulary words (https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/Appendix:Indonesian_Swadesh_list) (from Wiktionary's Swadesh-list appendix (https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/Appendix:Swadesh_lists))
- Indonesia WWW Virtual Library (<http://coombs.anu.edu.au/WWWVLPages/IndonPages/Universities.html>)
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- Indonesia Language (<https://web.archive.org/web/20190711011518/http://v2xg.com/>)
- babla.co.id (<http://www.babla.co.id/>) English-Indonesian dictionary from bab.la, a language learning portal

English-Indonesian translation services

- Google Indonesia Translator (<https://translate.google.com/#auto%7Cid>)

- [English to Indonesian Translation and Dictionary | Indonesian Translator \(http://www.indotranslate.com/translate-d-text.php\)](http://www.indotranslate.com/translate-d-text.php)
- [Sederet.com - Free Indonesian English Translator \(http://vvv.sederet.com/translate.php\)](http://vvv.sederet.com/translate.php)
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